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FLASHY MARYLAND INVADER RECRUITING READY INVADES FOR BASHFORD MANOR; THREE STAKES TOP CHURCHILL DOWNS' CLOSING NIGHT 'DOWNS AFTER DARK' CARD

First of 11 Races Saturday is 6 p.m.; Mandatory Payout in Single 6 Jackpot Which Covers Races 4-9

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Wednesday, June 29, 2016) – Sagamore Farm's eye-popping 10 ¼-length Pimlico maiden winner **Recruiting Ready** headlines a field of nine 2-year-old colts and geldings entered in Saturday night's 115th running of the \$100,000 Bashford Manor (Grade III) – the first of three stakes events on closing night of Churchill Downs' 38-day Spring Meet.

The six-furlong Bashford Manor is the first of three stakes events on a deep 11-race nighttime card billed as “**Downs After Dark Presented by Stella Artois and Jack Daniel's.**” Admission gates open Saturday at 5 p.m. (all times Eastern), the first race is 6 p.m. and the “Downs After Dark” theme is “**My Country 'Tis of Thee**” in which guests are encouraged dress in their finest **red, white and blue** to celebrate the Fourth of July holiday weekend and enjoy **draft beer, specialty cocktails, BBQ, food trucks, “Bet or No Bet Presented by Thorntons” and live music by local country band Wildwood.**

The Bashford Manor – one of Churchill Downs' most storied races – kick-starts the stakes tripleheader in Race 7 at approximately 9:05 p.m. The \$100,000 Debutante, a listed six-furlong event for 2-year-old fillies, goes as Race 8 at 9:39 p.m. The \$67,000-added Kelly's Landing, a seven-furlong sprint for 3-year-olds and up, is scheduled as Race 10 at 10:42 p.m.

Because it's closing night, there is a mandatory payout in Churchill Downs' 20-cent minimum **Single 6 Jackpot**, which began the week with a \$671,761 carryover. Since May 13, the daily six-race sequence has challenged bettors to select the winners of six consecutive races but the Jackpot pool only is paid if there is a single winning ticket. When multiple tickets contain six winners – which has been the case for each of the last 28 race days – 90 percent of that day's pool is paid out and 10 percent is added to the Jackpot carryover. Takeout on the Single 6 Jackpot is just 15 percent, which is one of the lowest multi-race wager takeout rates in American racing.

Saturday night's Single 6 Jackpot, including any added money in the carryover, will be paid to ticket holders with the most winners in the six-race series, which covers Races 4-9 starting at approximately 7:26 p.m.

Recruiting Ready is certain to be included on numerous Single 6 Jackpot tickets.

Based in Maryland, Recruiting Ready won his May 28 debut at Pimlico with overwhelming authority as the odds-on 3-5 favorite under Hall of Fame jockey **Edgar Prado**. The 2-year-old son of freshman sire Algorithms sizzled along the inside through an opening quarter-mile in :22.39, opened up after a half-mile in :45.52 and crossed the finish line in :51.78 for 4 ½ furlongs, which was just .28 off champion **Countess Diana's** 1997 track record of :51.50.

Horacio DePaz trains the promising colt for Sagamore Farm's **Kevin Plank**, the founder and CEO of **Under Armour** who purchased Recruiting Ready for \$110,000 at Keeneland's September yearling sale. Recruiting Ready was bred in Kentucky by legendary **Claiborne Farm**.

“He's got a lot of talent,” said DePaz, Sagamore Farm's private trainer since March 2015 who is seeking his first career stakes win. “He's a very talented horse.”

Recruiting Ready is comfortably drawn on the outside for the Bashford Manor and will ridden again by Prado, who flies in for the mount.

Chief among Recruiting Ready's rivals will be **Patricia's Hope LLC's Riv**, a 4 ¼-length debut winner over Arlington Park's Polytrack for trainer **Larry Rivelli**; **Jerry Durant** and **Bill Jordan's Texas invader U S Officer**, who won by three lengths at 4-5 odds for trainer **Danny Pish** at Lone Star Park; and **Whispering Oaks Farm LLC's** locally-based Louisiana-bred **Tip Tap Tapizar**, who prevailed by 3 ¼ lengths on June 11 to pay \$18.40 to win – one of four 2-year-old winners for trainer **Steve Asmussen** at the Spring Meet.

Asmussen has won the Bashford Manor four times – **Lunarpal** (2004), **Kodiak Kowboy** (2007), **Kantharos** (2010) and **Cinco Charlie** (2014) – and another victory would equal Hall of Fame trainer **D. Wayne Lukas'** record for the race.

The Bashford Manor field from the rail out (with jockeys): **Classic Empire** (Julien Leparoux), **Boys From Boston** (Eric Camacho), **Tip Tap Tapizar** (Ricardo Santana Jr.), **My Golden Aura** (Francisco Torres), **Riv** (Jose Valdivia Jr.), **U S Officer** (Corey Lanerie), **Capt. Grider** (Miguel Mena), **Raising Rumors** (Brian Hernandez Jr.) and Recruiting Ready (Edgar Prado).

First run in 1902, the Bashford Manor is named for the former Louisville Thoroughbred breeding and racing farm that dominated the American racing scene in the early 1900s. **George J. Long**, a wealthy foundry owner, purchased **Bashford Manor Farm** in 1887 and developed his Thoroughbred operation that provided him two Derby wins as an owner, 1892 (**Azra**) and 1906 (**Sir Huon**), and three as a breeder, 1892 (**Azra**), 1899 (**Manuel**) and 1906 (**Sir Huon**). In addition, Bashford Manor also won the Kentucky Oaks in 1894 (**Selika**) and 1915 (**Kathleen**). The original **Wilder family** owned Bashford Manor. The Wilders were direct descendants of **Lord Baltimore**, whose English home was also called Bashford Manor. Long died in 1930 and the farm was eventually sold in 1973 to make way for the development of a mall complex, fittingly named Bashford Manor, that formally closed in 2003.

General admission to Churchill Downs is \$10 on Saturday night. Box seats are \$25 and reserved dining packages are \$70. They can be purchased online at www.ChurchillDowns.com/Tickets.

ASMUSSEN ATTEMPTS TO LAND FIFTH WIN IN \$100,000 DEBUTANTE

Trainer **Steve Asmussen** will start **Winchell Thoroughbreds'** homebred **Tricky One** in Saturday's 116th running of the \$100,000 Debutante (Listed) in an attempt to collect his fifth victory in the six-furlong sprint for 2-year-old fillies.

The Debutante, which attracted 10 juvenile fillies, is one of three stakes events on Churchill Downs' 11-race closing night card billed as "**Downs After Dark Presented by Stella Artois and Jack Daniel's.**" The Debutante will go as Race 8 at 9:39 p.m. (all times Eastern).

Tricky One, a Kentucky-bred daughter of Unbridled's Song out of the Pulpit mare Simplify, contested the pace from the inside in her June 3 debut and shook clear in the stretch to draw away for a comfortable 4 1/2-length win in :58.19 for five furlongs.

A win by Asmussen on Saturday would equal Hall of Fame trainer **D. Wayne Lukas's** five-win Debutante record. Asmussen's previous race success came with **Cashier's Dream** (2001), **Effectual** ('05), **Richwoman** ('06) and **Rated Fiasty** ('07).

One of Tricky One's prime rivals will be a horse bred by Asmussen's father **Keith. Keene Thoroughbreds' Country Candy** was a romping 9 1/2-length debut winner at Lone Star Park for trainer **J.R. Caldwell** on May 6. Bred in Texas, Country Candy will attempt to become the third Texas-bred to win the Debutante in the last four years. **Bret Calhoun** saddled **Fiftyshadesofgold** and **Promise Me Silver** to victories in 2013-14, respectively.

The field for the Debutante from the rail out (with jockey): **Silver Threads** (Robby Albarado), **Anna's Bandit** (Eric Camacho), **Grandma's Princess** (Miguel Mena), Country Candy (Ricardo Santana Jr.), Tricky One (Florent Geroux), **Pretty City Dancer** (Julien Leparoux), **Maximum Edge** (Brian Hernandez Jr.), **Whole Scoop** (Corey Lanerie), **Like a Hurricane** (Francisco Torres) and **China Grove** (Albin Jimenez).

ALSVID LOOKS FOR SECOND STAKES WIN OF SPRING MEET IN KELLY'S LANDING

Black Hawk Stable's 7-year-old millionaire **Alsvid**, who held on gamely to defeat 4-5 favorite **Limousine Liberal** by a head in the \$100,000 Aristides (Grade III) for a second straight year on June 3, returns to action Saturday as the headliner in the seventh renewal of the \$67,000-added Kelly's Landing Overnight Stakes at Churchill Downs.

The seven-furlong Kelly's Landing for 3-year-olds and up is one of three stakes events on Churchill Downs' closing night card billed as "**Downs After Dark Presented by Stella Artois and Jack Daniel's.**" It will go as Race 10 of 11 at 10:42 p.m. (all times Eastern).

Alsvid, conditioned by **Chris Hartman** for owner **James Rogers**, collected his 14th victory from 42 starts and improved his career bankroll to \$1,233,998 when winning the six-furlong Aristides under regular rider **Chris Landeros** in a swift 1:08.26, which was the third fastest Aristides at the distance only behind **Kelly's Landing's** 1:07.59 in 2005 and **Fabulous Strike's** 1:07.64 in 2007. It was the 10th stakes victory of his career and snapped an 11-race winless streak that started after he beat 2014 champion sprinter **Work All Week** by two lengths in the 2015 Aristides.

The Kelly's Landing will be Alsvid's seventh start beyond six furlongs. Between the distances of seven furlongs and 1 1/16 miles, Alsvid has a record of 6-1-0-2 with his lone victory coming as a 3-year-old in the 2012 Prairie Mile, which was a 5 1/4 length score.

The field for the Kelly's Landing from the rail out (with jockeys): **Bayerd** (Florent Geroux), **Island Town** (Brian Hernandez Jr.), **Helooksthepart** (Robby Albarado), **Schivarelli** (Corey Lanerie), **Natchez** (James Graham), **Wabel** (Julien Leparoux) and Alsvid (Chris Landeros).

The race is named in honor of **Summerplace Farm's Kelly's Landing**, who earned \$1,853,831 from a record of 10-3-2 in 27 starts for trainer **Eddie Kenneally** between 2004-09. The gelding won the six-furlong Aristides Handicap (GIII) at Churchill Downs in 2005 by stopping the teletimer in a track record 1:07.55 (since eclipsed). His biggest victory came in the 2007 Dubai Golden Shaheen at Nad Al Sheba in the United Arab Emirates. Kelly's Landing also won the 2006 Phoenix (GIII) at Keeneland and 2007 Mr. Prospector Handicap (GIII) at Gulfstream Park.

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